

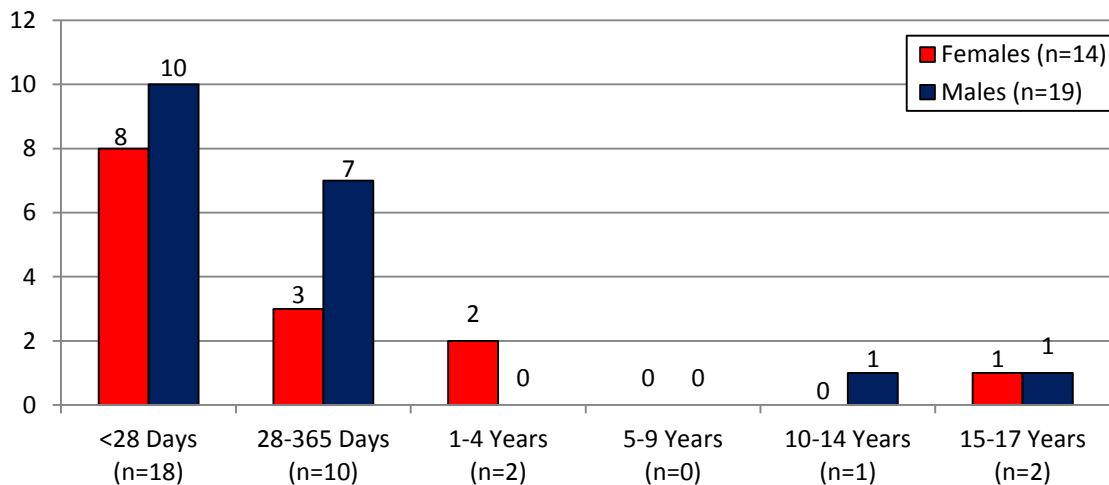


2011 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR YUMA COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of Yuma County. During 2011, there were 33 deaths among Yuma County residents younger than 18 years of age. Males accounted for 58 percent of child deaths (n=19) and females accounted for 42 percent (n=14). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group, Yuma County, Arizona 2011 (n=33)



Deaths were slightly over-represented among White, non-Hispanic children in this county. White, non-Hispanic children comprised 18 percent of the fatalities (n=6) and 17 percent of the population. Hispanic children comprised 76 percent of the population but 73 percent of the fatalities (n=24); and African American children comprised 2 percent of the population and 6 percent of the fatalities (n=2).

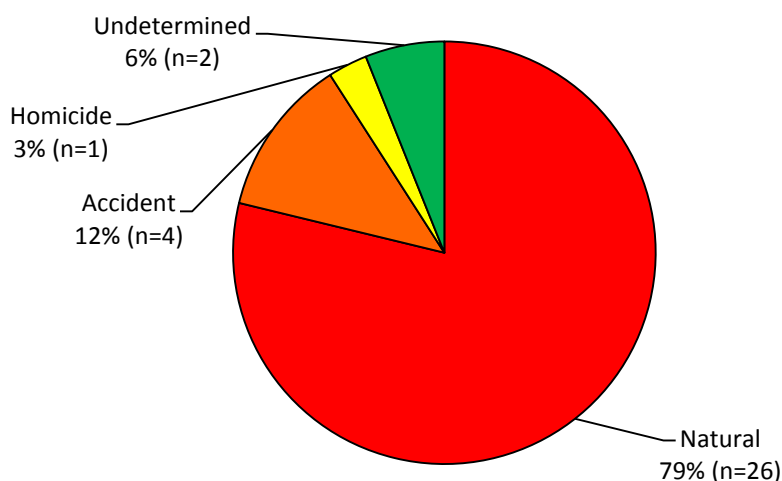
CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Cause of death refers to the injury or medical condition that resulted in death (e.g. firearm-related injury, pneumonia, cancer). Manner of death is not the same as cause of death, but specifically refers to the intentionality of the cause. For example, if the cause of death was a firearm-related injury, then the manner of death may have been intentional or unintentional. If it was intentional, then the manner of death was suicide or homicide. If it was unintentional, then the manner of death was an accident. In some cases, there was insufficient information to determine the manner of death, even though the cause was known. It may not have been clear that a firearm death was due to an accident, suicide, or homicide, and in these cases, the manner of death was listed as undetermined. Manners of death include:

- natural (e.g., cancer)
- accident (e.g., unintentional car crash)
- homicide (e.g., assault)
- suicide (e.g., self-inflicted intentional firearm injury)
- undetermined

Seventy-nine percent of deaths were due to natural manners (n=26), and 12 percent of deaths were due to accidents (n=4). There were two undetermined deaths (6 percent) and one homicide (3 percent, n=1). There were no suicides among Yuma children in 2011. Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Yuma County, Arizona 2011 (n=33)



Seventeen deaths were due to medical causes and 10 children died from prematurity. Two children died by MVC/Transport, one child died from suffocation, one child drowned and one died from blunt/sharp force trauma. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Table 1. Deaths Among Children by Cause and Manner, Yuma County, Arizona 2011 (n=33)							
Cause	Natural	Accident	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Unknown	Total
Medical*	16	0	0	0	1	0	17
Prematurity	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
MVC/Transport	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Suffocation	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Drowning	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Blunt/Sharp Force Trauma	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Undetermined	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	26	4	0	0	2	0	33
*Excluding Prematurity and SIDS							

PREVENTABILITY

Child fatality review teams consider a child's death preventable if something could have been done (by an individual such as the caregiver or supervisor, or by the community as a whole) that would have prevented the death. The local child fatality review team determined that 24 percent of the deaths among Yuma County children could have been prevented (n=8).

During the review of each child's death, teams identify factors believed to have contributed to the death. Although the presence of a contributing factor typically led to the determination that a death was preventable, this was not always the case. For example, the team might have concluded that an unsafe sleep environment (e.g. infant left sleeping on a couch) was a contributing factor in an unexpected infant death. However, the team may not have had sufficient information (e.g. autopsy report, adequate scene investigation) to determine if the death could have been prevented.

In Yuma County, drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for four deaths (12 percent) and driver distraction was a contributing factor for two deaths (six percent). More than one factor may have been identified for each death. Table 2 shows the most common factors contributing to the deaths of child residents of Yuma County.

Table 2. Contributing Factors for Deaths Among Children, Yuma County, Arizona 2010		
Factor*	Number	Percent
Substance use	4	12%
Driver distraction	2	6%
Lack of restrain	1	3%
Co-sleeping	1	3%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN YUMA COUNTY COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in Yuma County and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 14 Arizona counties. During 2011, 33 children who were residents of Yuma County died, and 775 children died who were residents of the other 14 Arizona counties. Yuma County had a crude rate of 58.4 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a higher rate than the remainder of the state (48.9 deaths per 100,000 residents). Yuma County had a smaller percentage of preventable deaths than the remaining counties. Only 24 percent of the deaths among Yuma County children could have been prevented (n=8), compared to over one-third of child deaths in the remaining counties (35 percent, n=272).

Medical conditions were the leading cause of child deaths in Yuma County (79 percent), and the remainder of Arizona (41 percent). Prematurity accounted for 30 percent of child deaths to Yuma County residents and was also the second leading cause of death for the rest of Arizona (24 percent). MVC/Transport deaths accounted for six percent of the child deaths in Yuma County in 2011 and eight percent for the remainder of Arizona. There were no poisonings, hangings or exposure deaths for Yuma County child residents during 2011. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for Yuma County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, Yuma County, Arizona 2011			
Yuma County (n=33)		Arizona, Excluding Yuma County (n=775)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Medical	52%	Medical	41%
Prematurity	30%	Prematurity	24%
MVC/Transport	6%	MVC/Transport	8%
Suffocation	3%	Suffocation	6%
Drowning	3%	Drowning	4%
Blunt/Sharp Force Trauma	3%	Blunt/Sharp Force Trauma	3%
Undetermined	3%	Undetermined	6%

In Yuma County, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidental manner (12 percent), a lower percentage than the rest of Arizona where accidents accounted for 20 percent of child deaths. There was a higher percentage of natural deaths in Yuma County (79 percent), compared to the rest of the state (66 percent). Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner for Yuma County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Yuma County, Arizona 2010			
Yuma County (n=33)		Arizona, Excluding Yuma County (n=775)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	79%	Natural	66%
Accident	12%	Accident	20%
Suicide	0%	Suicide	5%
Homicide	3%	Homicide	5%
Undetermined	6%	Undetermined	6%
Unknown	0%	Unknown	<1%